

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 31 August 1953

SUBJECT Firing Practice off Ruegen Island

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

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NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF  
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

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1. On and after 2 April 1953, four Soviet submarine chasers were at the port of Sassnitz. They were about 40 meters long, had one funnel standing apart from the bridge, carried three guns and flew the Soviet war ensign. They left port with Sea Police vessel ERNST THAELMANN on 9 April 1953.<sup>1</sup>
2. At about 9:30 a.m. on 9 April 1953, five vessels performed firing practice off Sassnitz harbor. Four of them proceeded toward Sassnitz in line ahead and later reversed course. They fired at the cliffs between Sassnitz and Kollickerort as they turned and, after finishing the firing practice, proceeded close to the shore. Source believed that they were checking the hits. One of them later fired in the direction of Prorer Wiek. Splashes were about 3 or 4 sea miles from the vessel which fired at intervals of about 30 seconds. A group of 25 men was lined up on the fantail of each vessel during the firing. The four submarine chasers were followed by a large vessel named ERNST THAELMAN. The markings of the four vessels could not be made out.<sup>2</sup>

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1.  Comment. Although this somewhat vague description does not permit to identify the four vessels, it is believed that they were of T 301 type of the EO class. ERNST THAELMANN, formerly DORSCH was stationed in Sassnitz as a Sea Police training ship.

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2.  Comment. It is believed that the firing practice was held by the Soviet submarine chasers.

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